

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 02821 161628Z
ACTION AF-10

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-----114124 180522Z /16
R 161505Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1226

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2821

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFSP, ASEC
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE IN HEALTH UNIT
 AMEMBASSY, PRETORIA

1. EMBASSY REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO HIRE MRS. BERND (JODY) MCCONNELL RN. WIFE OF MAJOR MCCONNALL, ASST. AIR ATTACHE IN DAO, ON A TEMPORARY BASIS TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL COVER IN THE HEALTH UNIT DURING PERIOD THE LONE LOCAL NURSE WILL BE ON ANNUAL LEAVE.

2. BACKGROUND: THE RMO TRANSFERRED FROM PRETORIA IN EARLY MARCH TO ASSUME THE DIRECTORSHIP OF FOREIGN PROGRAMS IN M/MED. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THE RMO POSITION WILL NOT BE FILLED UNTIL LATE AUGUST. THE HEALTH UNIT IS AUTHORIZED TWO FSL NURSE POSITIONS. ONE NURSE RESIGNED AT THE END OF MARCH, AND EMBASSY IS CURRENTLY NOT RECRUITING TO FILL POSITION PENDING DECISION ON THE POSSIBLE RE-LOCATION OF HEALTH UNIT TO JOHANNESBURG. THE INCUMBENT OF THE OTHER POSITION PLANS TO TAKE LEAVE TO CARE FOR HER PREMATURE INFANT DAUGHTER AS SOON AS THE CHILD IS RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL, WHICH COULD OCCUR IN EARLY JUNE. AT THIS TIME, IT IS NOT KNOWN THE LENGTH OF HER LEAVE PERIOD; IT COULD BE UP TO TWO MONTHS. AS EMBASSY WILL NEED COVERAGE DURING THE FSL NURSE'S ABSENCE, WE HAVE RECRUITED MRS. MCCONNELL WHO IS AVAILABLE AND
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WILLING TO MANAGE HEALTH UNIT DURING ABSENCE OF LOCAL NURSE.

3. EMBASSY WILL APPRECIATE AN EARLY AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE TO REQUEST.
NELSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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